BOARD MEETING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

GOVERNMENT CENTER

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AUDITORIUM

DIAMOND BAR, CALIFORNIA

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2001 2:00 P.M.

JAMES F. PETERS, CSR, RPR CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER LICENSE NUMBER 10063

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- 1 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Okay. As was
- 2 noticed, we're going to be listening to Agenda Item 30,
- 3 discussion. And it's scheduled from 2:00 to 3:00. We
- 4 have a number of speakers, and I would ask that you try
- 5 and keep your testimony to about three minutes, we'd
- 6 really appreciate it.
- 7 Ms. Friedman.
- 8 ORGANICS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY BRANCH MANAGER
- 9 FRIEDMAN: Good afternoon, Chairman Moulton-Patterson and
- 10 board members. Agenda item 30 is discussion of South
- 11 Coast Air Quality Management District's proposed Rule
- 12 1133, Emission Reductions from Composting Facilities and
- 13 Related Operations.
- 14 For the record, I'm Judy Friedman from the Waste
- 15 Prevention and Market Development Division.
- As we only have one hour for this item, I will
- 17 keep my remarks brief and following me will be Mr. Laki
- 18 Tisopulous, who's the Assistant Deputy Executive Officer
- 19 from the South Coast Air Quality Management District, who
- 20 will also briefly address the Board, and his comments will
- 21 be no more than ten minutes.
- 22 Upon conclusion of our respective remarks the
- 23 Board will hear from a number of interested people. And,
- 24 as you said, we are requesting that each presenter limit
- 25 his or her remarks to no more than three minutes to allow

- 1 everyone an opportunity to speak.
- 2 We also ask for their written comments to be
- 3 submitted for the record. We will be including in the
- 4 record all comment letters we've received, and so far we
- 5 have received 22 letters.
- 6 With your concurrence, I ask that Board Members
- 7 hold their questions till the end of public testimony,
- 8 which will allow you an opportunity to ask your questions
- 9 of anyone of us.
- 10 As you may know, the South Coast Air Quality
- 11 Management District is proposing a rule, 1133, titled
- 12 Emission Reductions from Composting and Related
- 13 Operations. The proposed rule currently mandates total
- 14 enclosure of green material handling and bio-solid
- 15 processing operations as a means to reduce emissions of
- 16 ammonia and Volatile Organic Compounds or VOCs.
- 17 The proposed rule has generated a great deal of
- 18 concern by staff of our board, our board members and our
- 19 stakeholders, including local governments and private
- 20 industry. These concerns relate to the specific impacts
- 21 of the rule, as well as cross media implications,
- 22 including data assumptions and data limitations; questions
- 23 of whether the proposed rule will achieve the desired
- 24 emission reduction result concerns about increased
- 25 emissions from the likely alternatives to composting and

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1 green material handling, such as increased land-filling

- 2 and hauling due to the closure of existing facilities and
- 3 the abandonment of projected facilities; feasibility,
- 4 including costs of implementation of the rule and
- 5 increases in ratepayer costs; effects on the
- 6 infrastructure that have been developed and the
- 7 jurisdiction's ability to meet AB 939 mandates; and the
- 8 effects of all of the above have on overall statewide
- 9 achievement of AB 939.
- 10 Because of these concerns, Board Member Jones
- 11 asked and the Board agreed to have an agenda item at this
- 12 Board meeting to provide an opportunity in a public forum
- 13 to hear presentations of information about and concerns
- 14 with the proposed rule and the impacts on AB 939, both
- 15 locally and statewide.
- 16 Also, because of these concerns, board staff have
- 17 devoted considerable time and resources to pursuing
- 18 satisfactory resolution of this issue. In fact, we have
- 19 submitted three comment letters to the district raising
- 20 questions, identifying concerns and recommending an
- 21 investigation of performance based measures through best
- 22 management practices as an alternative to the prescriptive
- 23 standards that the current rule would require.
- 24 Board staff urgently became aware of the
- 25 District's intentions to promulgate a rule in October 2000

- 1 when district staff agreed to include board staff in the
- 2 development of rule language. However, it wasn't until
- 3 August 2001 when staff next heard from the district and
- 4 this was when the proposed rule was noticed to the public.
- 5 Our current information indicates that the
- 6 district will be voting on adoption of this rule in
- 7 January. Since August, there have been two public
- 8 workshops, one public hearing and several meetings between
- 9 the staffs of the two agencies. Board Member Jones has
- 10 been present at several of these meetings and at the
- 11 hearing.
- 12 Earlier, I identified for you some of the issues
- 13 that we have concerning the proposed rule. To illustrate
- 14 why a rule that pertains to only the South Coast Air
- 15 District has such far reaching implications, I draw your
- 16 attention to the following.
- 17 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was
- 18 presented as follows.)
- 19 ORGANICS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY BRANCH MANAGER
- 20 FRIEDMAN: First of all, this rule affects materials that
- 21 make up a significant portion of the waste stream in the
- 22 four counties included in the district's area, as well as
- 23 statewide. This slide shows the components of the waste
- 24 stream and their estimated proportion in the four counties
- 25 affected by the district, based on data collected in the

- 1 Board's 1999 statewide waste characterization study.
- 2 For this chart yard waste and wood waste have
- 3 been combined into their own category separate from other
- 4 organic materials since the yard waste and wood waste are
- 5 typical feedstocks for compost and processing operations.
- 6 Note that this shows materials disposed only and
- 7 does not include ADC or materials diverted through other
- 8 programs.
- 9 ---00--
- 10 ORGANICS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY BRANCH MANAGER
- 11 FRIEDMAN: The next slide shows how the composition of the
- 12 waste stream has changed over the past 11 years in
- 13 response to AB 939. In 1990 yard and wood waste made up a
- 14 significant portion of both overall materials generated as
- 15 well as materials destined for disposal.
- In 1999, they still are an important part of the
- 17 disposed waste stream, but the amounts disposed have
- 18 decreased drastically from about 9.8 million tons in 1990
- 19 to about 5.7 million tons in 1999, despite the significant
- 20 increase in population, and expansion of the State's
- 21 economy since 1990 and the fact that 1990 was a drought
- 22 year, which probably somewhat suppressed generation of
- 23 clean waste.
- 24 Although, this data is for the statewide waste
- 25 stream, preliminary comparisons of statewide data to that

- 1 for the four county area show the compositions to be very
- 2 similar.
- 3 ---00--
- 4 ORGANICS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY BRANCH MANAGER
- 5 FRIEDMAN: Industry estimates that about four million tons
- 6 of yard and green waste are diverted through composting
- 7 and processing in the four county area. This chart shows
- 8 that if these materials were to be disposed, yard and wood
- 9 waste would increase from about 13 percent of the disposed
- 10 waste stream to about 28 percent.
- In 1999, about one million tons of ADC was
- 12 reported in the four counties. Assuming all this was
- 13 green waste, and even if you assume that this amount would
- 14 still be diverted, the remaining three million tons added
- 15 back in the disposal would result in yard waste and green
- 16 waste still making up about 25 percent of the disposed
- 17 waste stream.
- --o0o--
- 19 ORGANICS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY BRANCH MANAGER
- 20 FRIEDMAN: For comparison, here is the first slide I
- 21 showed you again, which estimates the current make up of
- 22 the disposed waste stream. These charts overall show that
- 23 organic materials make up a significant part of the waste
- 24 stream, that the disposal of these materials has been
- 25 greatly reduced as the AB 939 diversion program has been

- 1 implemented. And if these programs are halted, disposal
- 2 of these organics would have a major impact on the waste
- 3 stream.
- 4 --000--
- 5 ORGANICS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY BRANCH MANAGER
- 6 FRIEDMAN: The previous chart set the context for the
- 7 current disposed waste stream and some potential effects
- 8 that PR 1133 could have on it. The next few slides
- 9 present some information concerning potential impacts of
- 10 the rule on diversion.
- 11 --000--
- 12 ORGANICS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY BRANCH MANAGER
- 13 FRIEDMAN: Green waste industry estimates four million
- 14 tons processed annually in the district.
- --o0o--
- ORGANICS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY BRANCH MANAGER
- 17 FRIEDMAN: For the interests of time, I'm going to skip a
- 18 couple of slides. The diversion requirement slide,
- 19 basically the most important point is diversion, is
- 20 measured indirectly through reduction in disposal tons.
- 21 Green waste diversion programs in the South Coast
- 22 Air Quality Management District. Information on two of
- 23 the 12 major types of green waste diversion programs
- 24 implemented in jurisdictions show that many jurisdictions
- 25 are relying on green waste diversion. Over 100

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- 1 jurisdictions in the South Coast District are implementing
- 2 green waste collection programs, and over 60 jurisdictions
- 3 in the district are using composting facilities.
- 4 --000--
- 5 ORGANICS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY BRANCH MANAGER
- 6 FRIEDMAN: Potential Impacts on City Operated Diversion
- 7 Programs. In year 2000 annual reports on progress and
- 8 implementing diversion programs to achieve 50 percent
- 9 diversion, 94 percent of the cities and counties in the
- 10 district report they're implementing at least three green
- 11 waste programs.
- 12 This represents a substantial investment by
- 13 cities and counties and the waste management industry.
- 14 Please note that the remaining six percent report that
- 15 they have at least one green waste program. Several
- 16 jurisdictions have reported tonnage on programs that the
- 17 jurisdictions operate.
- 18 For example, Fontana reports that 16 percent of
- 19 total waste generated is collected by the city green waste
- 20 collection program. And the City of Los Angeles reports
- 21 that six percent of total waste generated in the city is
- 22 collected by the city green waste collection program. In
- 23 these examples, if these diversion programs were no longer
- 24 available, then it would reduce these jurisdictions'
- 25 diversion rates by 16 and six percent respectively.

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- ORGANICS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY BRANCH MANAGER
- 3 FRIEDMAN: Thus, this rule as it's currently written, has
- 4 the potential to jeopardize the achievement and

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- 5 maintenance of AB 939. It should be noted that in every
- 6 meeting and in our correspondence with the district, we
- 7 have offered to work together to investigate and develop
- 8 data to determine what is needed to reduce emissions, and
- 9 as appropriate to develop a rule, which protects air
- 10 quality without negatively impacting AB 939 mandates.
- 11 Board staff has expressed the desire to be a
- 12 partner with the district and provide our expertise to the
- 13 districts so the district can achieve its mandate and the
- 14 Board can meet its mandate as well.
- In fact, the Board set aside contract funds in 15
- 16 Agenda Item 15 to that end, and it is our goal that
- 17 ultimately we can work cooperatively in this endeavor.
- 18 This concludes my brief remarks. Following me
- 19 will be, as I said, Mr. Laki Tisopulous. Following his
- 20 brief remarks we will move into the public testimony. I
- 21 want to reiterate that in the public testimony portion of
- 22 the agenda, we request that each presenter limit his or
- 23 her remarks to no more than three minutes to allow
- 24 everyone an opportunity to speak. And we also ask for
- 25 their written comments to be submitted for the record. It

- 1 is our intention to submit a copy of all of these
- 2 documents, plus a transcript of today's discussions to the
- 3 South Coast for their records.
- 4 Thank you.
- 5 Mr. Tisopulous.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you, Ms.
- 7 Friedman.
- 8 SOUTH COAST AQMD ASSISTANT DEPUTY EXECUTIVE
- 9 OFFICER TISOPULOUS: Thank you, Ms. Friedman.
- 10 Good afternoon, Madam Chair and Members of the
- 11 Board. My name, for the record, is Laki Tisopulous. And
- 12 I'm an Assistant Deputy Executive Officer with the agency.
- I want to thank you all for the opportunity to
- 14 offer you a brief status report on Proposed Rule 1133.
- 15 Actually, it's going to be a two-part presentation.
- 16 Before I turn it over to my colleague, Alene Taber, who's
- 17 managing the program and who is going to be giving you the
- 18 details on the proposal, I would like to offer a few
- 19 introductory remarks.
- 20 As you may know, the agency has jurisdiction over
- 21 the four-county area here in south coast, Los Angeles,
- 22 Orange County, Riverside and San Bernardino. We are the
- 23 nation's only extreme nonattainment area. And as such,
- 24 our mission is to bring this area into attainment with
- 25 both the federal and State air quality standards and

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- 1 protect the public health.
- 2 Rule 1133, the proposed rule, is a very important
- 3 rule from that standpoint. It not only improves air
- 4 quality by reducing emissions but also protects public
- 5 health, because some of the emissions associated with
- 6 these operations, such as ammonia, have been considered as
- 7 a precursor to fine particulates, which are known to have
- 8 adverse health impacts.
- 9 As a background, we do develop long-term plans
- 10 and then we also develop rules and regulations that do
- 11 implement and execute those plans. And 1133 is one of
- 12 those. One thing that I want to make sure that you all
- 13 understand and you keep in the back of your minds, as we
- 14 develop these rules, we work diligently with all the
- 15 impacted parties, with all the stakeholders. And we are
- 16 going to follow the same procedure even with this rule.
- 17 We do understand that there are a lot of questions and
- 18 issues, but rest assured that we are going to sort through
- 19 those and we are going to work with each and every
- 20 impacted party.
- 21 And keep in mind whatever we are presenting today
- 22 to you is a rule in the making. It's a draft rule at
- 23 best, and it's going to go through several iterations.
- 24 With that, I'm going to turn it over to Alene
- 25 Tabor who is the manager of the agency's CEQA

- 1 socioeconomic and particulate matter control strategy
- 2 section, and she's going to offer you the brief status
- 3 report on the rule.
- 4 Thanks.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 6 MS. TABER: Good afternoon.
- 7 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was
- 8 presented as follows.)
- 9 MS. TABER: I have a very brief staff report for
- 10 you to basically go over our Proposed Rule 1133. And as
- 11 Laki said, this is really a rule in the making.
- 12 --000--
- 13 MS. TABER: Just to summarize, the air quality
- 14 management district is the agency responsible for air
- 15 quality planning and compliance. And just to give you a
- 16 sense of what our jurisdictional boundaries are, we have
- 17 Orange County and the non-desert portions of Los Angeles,
- 18 San Bernardino and then a majority of Riverside County.
- 19 --00o--
- MS. TABER: You're probably asking the question
- 21 as to why are we developing rule 1133, Laki alluded to a
- 22 lot of those reasons. First of all, composting is a
- 23 source of ammonia. It's also a source of Volatile Organic
- 24 Compounds. In addition, there are health effects that are
- 25 associated with these compounds that affect the citizens

- 1 in our region.
- 2 We also have to comply with federal and State
- 3 Clean Air Acts that prescribe us to take certain actions.
- 4 And, in addition, controlling composting, emissions from
- 5 composting, is a known technology. No new technologies
- 6 need to be developed.
- 7 Just to briefly identify for you some of the
- 8 health effects that are associated with these pollutants,
- 9 the top couple health effects are both for PM 10 and
- 10 Volatile Organic Compounds, but PM 10 is the only
- 11 pollutant that has actually been linked in studies to
- 12 premature death, and there are some of the reasons why.
- --000--
- 14 MS. TABER: We also need to comply with a
- 15 regulatory structure just like you all comply with a
- 16 regulatory structure. That includes the federal Clean Air
- 17 Act. As Laki said, we're the only extreme nonattainment
- 18 area for ozone, so controlling VOC emissions is very
- 19 important to this region.
- In addition, we are a serious area for PM 10 and
- 21 again PM 10 has very significant health effects associated
- 22 with it. The California Clean Air Act and the federal
- 23 Clean Air Act mandate that we do make progress towards
- 24 achieving healthful air. And I've provided forward you
- 25 the dates that we are required, under the federal Clean

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1 Air Act, to achieve those standards. And in order to get

- 2 their, we needed to control emissions from all possible
- 3 sources.
- 4 As a part of getting and being able to show that
- 5 we're going to achieve those standards, we developed an
- 6 air quality management plan that we have to submit to Cal
- 7 Air Resources Board. We also submit it to the federal
- 8 EPA. And part of that plan included a control measure for
- 9 us to control emissions from composting operations. And
- 10 that plan has been approved by the Cal Air Resources Board
- 11 as well as by the U.S. EPA.
- 12 --00o--
- MS. TABER: I just want to summarize for you the
- 14 control methods and technologies we're talking about.
- 15 They're technologies that are being used by composting
- 16 facilities. There's one facility in this region as well
- 17 as in other areas of the United States. They basically
- 18 involve a combination of enclosure operations, aerated
- 19 static piles and controlling emissions by vending them to
- 20 a bio-filter.
- 21 There are some local projects that are on the
- 22 books to do various combinations of these, and I briefly
- 23 summarized those for you. So there is some effort already
- 24 in this region to control emissions from composting
- 25 activities.

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1 --000--

- MS. TABER: And I do want to note that those
- 3 facilities are dealing with bio-solids.
- 4 Basically, our rule, as it stands right now, has
- 5 two parts to it. There's a chipping and grinding part
- 6 that I believe you all refer to in your regulations as the
- 7 processors. For those operations, they would need to
- 8 submit a compliance plan to the district that would
- 9 basically entail the steps that they were going to take to
- 10 reduce fugitive dust emissions. So it would involve
- 11 things like watering, putting up screening. There is no
- 12 requirement for chipping and grinding operations or
- 13 processors, as you refer to them, to enclose or control
- 14 their emissions with a bio-filter.
- The second part of the regulation deals with the
- 16 composting portion. And right now the version that we've
- 17 put out for public comment does call for enclosure of the
- 18 various portions of a composting facility, whether they be
- 19 green waste or bio-solids and that those emissions be
- 20 vented to a bio-filter and that that would occur by 2004.
- 21 But I guess I want to really underline the fact
- 22 that this is a work-in-progress. We're taking comments on
- 23 this. Based on public comments that we get an additional
- 24 information we pull together, we'll revise what the
- 25 operational requirements are.

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2 MS. TABER: I think your staff summarized a lot

- 3 of the key issues. I just want to go over a couple of
- 4 them. We did hear comments both from your staff and from
- 5 people in the industry that our emissions inventory was
- 6 lacking in good data with regards to green waste. And we
- 7 concurred with them. So right now we are doing a green
- 8 waste emissions study at a composting facility that only
- 9 does green waste.

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- 10 Based on the information that we receive from
- 11 that study, we'll go back and revise our proposed
- 12 regulation. We're doing some cost effectiveness analysis
- 13 and we're also looking very seriously at the issue of AB
- 14 939. And I was very happy to see the information that
- 15 your staff presented you today, because we'll use that in
- 16 conjunction with other information we have to determine
- 17 what potential impact this rule might have on achieving
- 18 those standards, and then ways that we'll modify the rule
- 19 in order to lessen those impacts.
- 20 Just for your information, some of the stuff that
- 21 we were able to gain off of your web site and other
- 22 information showed that actual green waste composting was
- 23 probably far down on the list. It seems that a lot of the
- 24 diversion that is going on from the landfills is going to
- 25 ADC. And this regulation does not require covering or

- 1 emission control of any ADC.
- 2 The part of the ADC activity where there's
- 3 chipping and grinding would need to produce a compliance
- 4 plan, but there's no requirement for cover.
- 5 And then we're looking at whether or not we
- 6 should bury the enclosure requirement based on a facility
- 7 which is dealing with putrescible wastes, bio-solids, that
- 8 kind of thing versus green waste and whether or not we
- 9 need to require cover for all aspects, the feedstock, the
- 10 curing as well as the active composting.
- 11 --00o--
- 12 MS. TABER: And just to briefly summarize for
- 13 where we are in the rule development process, we went
- 14 through a very lengthy process when we adopted our air
- 15 quality management plans, where this was a part -- this
- 16 was subject to public review and comment. And then we
- 17 started our specific rule-making process in October of
- 18 2000 with a public consultation meeting. We've done a lot
- 19 of site visits. I believe now we've been to almost every
- 20 compost and chipping and grinding facility in the region.
- 21 Maybe we have a couple more chipping and grinding
- 22 facilities to go to.
- We've been able to collect a lot of test data.
- 24 We had a lot of our own test data on bio-solids that we've
- 25 been able to use. And we've held a number of workshops.

- 1 We're going to continue to hold workshops. Our next
- 2 workshop is in November, and we'll follow that up with
- 3 additional workshops before our board would consider this
- 4 rule in January.
- 5 That concludes my presentations, and I'd be happy
- 6 to answer questions at the end.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you. We'll
- 8 now go to our public comments. And, again, please try and
- 9 stay either beneath or within the three minutes, because
- 10 we have a great deal of people that would like to speak.
- 11 Robert Nelson, Riverside County.
- 12 MR. NELSON: Thank you, Members of the Board.
- 13 And we sincerely appreciate the opportunity to come and
- 14 speak. We also appreciate the fact that you have taken
- 15 the time to listen to some of the issues that affect not
- 16 only the industry, but we as agencies in the south coast
- 17 basin are deeply concerned about 1133 as we currently
- 18 understand it.
- 19 There should be no question about the fact from
- 20 my agency that we clearly want clean air. There's
- 21 probably no area of the south coast basin that is more
- 22 appreciative of trying to achieve those goals than we in
- 23 Riverside County.
- I don't think that's the question we're here to
- 25 talk about. We want clean air. It's the question of how

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- 1 we go about getting it and whether the rules are fair and
- 2 reasonable in the process of developing them.
- 3 There's no question, also, that there are two
- 4 very clear competing State goals. And we must reach a
- 5 reasonable sense of compromise in trying to achieve both
- 6 of those goals, clean air as well as diversions that we're
- 7 mandated by the State to achieve.
- 8 We've written three separate letters to the South
- 9 Coast Air District about this issue. One was on behalf of
- 10 our local task force and two was on behalf of our staff
- 11 and county. And I would like for the record to at least
- 12 enter those letters into the record. I do not believe
- 13 they were forwarded to your agency.
- Our local task force set up a subcommittee in
- 15 1999 to take a very serious look at the issue of green
- 16 waste diversion, wood waste diversion in our county. We
- 17 worked on that issue for several months and basically
- 18 reached the conclusion, as I think most every agency does,
- 19 and that is that there are insufficient outlets.
- 20 And partly because of that study, we began for
- 21 the first time, at that time, began using some of this
- 22 material for ADC. It's vitally important that we not kill
- 23 this industry by whatever process it is. And I think the
- 24 studies helped us bring that group together, understand
- 25 where our deficiencies were and we're trying to support

- 1 and improve that industry in our county.
- 2 The rule, as written, we believe will kill the
- 3 current industry in our county. It may be different
- 4 elsewhere, but that's certainly my judgment as the way
- 5 it's currently written. These products will simply end up
- 6 in our landfills. And that's something I don't want and I
- 7 don't think the State wants that either.
- 8 We believe that the rule should focus -- is that
- 9 my three minutes?
- 10 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Yeah, if you
- 11 could conclude now, please.
- MR. NELSON: Let me just quickly finish. We
- 13 think the rule should focus on bio-solids first, try to
- 14 get that area covered in the detail that's needed, get the
- 15 studies done that are needed to prove that this really is
- 16 an air emission problem with green waste and wood waste
- 17 and then go on with a second rule dealing with that issue.
- We don't think there's data available that proves
- 19 to us that it is clearly the issue that it seems to be nor
- 20 are there economic studies available to show the impact.
- 21 We think it will stop the wood waste diversion
- 22 even to the Colmac Energy Plant in our State. There's
- 23 another third State interest in terms of energy that is
- 24 critical to us.
- 25 Let me just close, again, by saying thanks for

- 1 letting us speak, thanks again for taking the time to
- 2 listen to the impact of a rule from a sister agency might
- 3 have on some of your goals.
- 4 Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr.
- 6 Nelson.
- 7 Gregory Adams, Los Angeles County Sanitation
- 8 District, followed by David Hardy.
- 9 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Madam Chair. My name is
- 10 Greg Adams and I'm the Air Quality Manager for the LA
- 11 County Sanitation Districts.
- 12 I'm speaking on behalf of SCAP, the Southern
- 13 California Alliance of POTWs representing 55 water and
- 14 waste water agencies in Southern California. And all 54
- 15 other members are right behind me to speak.
- No, I'm only kidding, but don't let the lack of
- 17 repetition, in anyway, diminish the concerns of our
- 18 industry today.
- 19 Bio-solids disposal is a significant concern to
- 20 all waste water agencies. And after salaries and
- 21 benefits, it is the singular highest budgeted item and
- 22 extremely important. The six largest generators of
- 23 bio-solids in the four county jurisdiction of the AQMD
- 24 generate about 1.2 million tons per year of bio-solids.
- Now, any regulation that potentially impacts any

22

- 1 of those disposal options of bio-solids or increases
- 2 diversion towards landfills as a result of increasing
- 3 costs to treat the bio-solids is of tremendous concern to
- 4 our 55 member agencies.
- 5 The Air Quality Management Plan, as sets forth
- 6 the guideline for the rule, had a two-part component to
- 7 the rule. And the components were a study phase to
- 8 establish the emissions base line and then number two if
- 9 the emissions base line was of sufficient concern, then we
- 10 would go into a Phase 2 or a technology implementation
- 11 approach. We have several concerns just on the first part
- 12 alone, the development of the emission inventory.
- 13 Number one, we do not believe that the emission
- 14 inventory has been adequately developed. The base line
- 15 emissions data for bio-solids derives from old source test
- 16 reports back in 1991, 1994 and 1995. If anybody
- 17 understands how bio-solids work, the tributary areas
- 18 contribute to the quality of the bio-solids. And if
- 19 industries move out in that period of time, the quality of
- 20 the bio-solids change.
- 21 So consequently those old source test reports are
- 22 not representative of the emissions potential that the
- 23 staff believes is available in this particular rule
- 24 making. We are not aware of any source tests conducted
- 25 for any green waste operations. And only recently have we

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- 1 become involved in a source test protocol, a fairly
- 2 sophisticated one, for green waste composting operations.
- 3 Also, we're not clear about how staff gets the through-put
- 4 data.
- 5 We've proposed to staff, this is the waste water
- 6 agencies, a test program to close or at least narrow the
- 7 gaps. Essentially, we've found that the base line
- $8\,\,$  emissions or starting part that the AQMD is using is too
- 9 high based on open windrow composting and that more modern
- 10 techniques will show that that will not be the case. The
- 11 emissions reduction potential is not there. We are
- 12 proposing a six-month test program at the cost to the
- 13 waste water agencies of about \$125,000.
- We're proposing to test four agitated enclosed
- 15 aerated static pile operations that are completely
- 16 contained so that we can accurately measure the emissions.
- 17 And we would want the Integrated Waste Management Board's
- 18 support of that test proposal. We're not trying to undue
- 19 the rule, we're trying to improve the scientific basis
- 20 behind the rule.
- 21 And then, finally, let me just say that a
- 22 one-size fits all approach to the great diversity of waste
- 23 handling options in the district as well as the State, we
- 24 think is wrong. It greatly removes any innovation in the
- 25 industry to develop better composting and control schemes.

1 Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak.

- 2 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you Mr.
- 3 Adams. David Hardy, California Biomass to be followed by
- 4 Gary Van Dorst.
- 5 MR. HARDY: Good afternoon. I'm going to start
- 6 off with a couple of compliments. Everybody just relax.
- 7 First of all, I want to thank the Board, in
- 8 particular Board Member Jones, for kind of helping the
- 9 industry and all the various stakeholders to get organized
- 10 and focused on this issue. I also want to point out
- 11 something, too. In the years that I've worked with the
- 12 Waste Board as we've developed policies for the industry,
- 13 I've always felt there's been a level of respect for
- 14 integrity and process, in that there was an effort to
- 15 actually be effective and do problem solving. We didn't
- 16 always agree on what the ultimate solution is, but I
- 17 always felt you maintained a certain level of integrity in
- 18 that staff also represented that intent in working with
- 19 industry and working through those types of technical
- 20 problems.
- 21 The process we're faced with the South Coast Air
- 22 Quality Management District, in respectful disagreement as
- 23 to what's been presented here, has no integrity. They've
- 24 already signed an administrative agreement of which we've
- 25 all been terrified to find out that the data that they

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- 1 used to base that agreement, that plan, that commitment
- 2 they make is tragically flawed. And instead of taking a
- 3 step back from that and trying to come up with some type
- 4 of solution that is based on some type of fundamental,
- 5 reliable data, they refused to do so.
- 6 They're not interested in solving a problem,
- 7 they're interested in patching up flaws in their process.
- 8 And they're driving this thing through and it's built on
- 9 straw.
- 10 They're asking industry to look at a solution
- 11 which is devastating. And yet they don't demonstrate the
- 12 basic respect of having us at least confront us with a
- 13 clearly defined problem, and then working towards a
- 14 reasonable solution. Instead, what we're confronted with
- 15 is flawed data, a refusal to actually engage industry and
- 16 build and collect that data, and then go through some type
- 17 of reliable process that sits there and works on
- 18 solutions.
- 19 So I ask you as you talk to your counterparts at
- 20 both the Air Board and some of the other sister agencies,
- 21 that this is the message that you take, that there is a
- 22 blatant stubbornness on the part of this effort to develop
- 23 this rule that lacks integrity. And we're being asked to
- 24 submit to something that really none of us can understand.
- 25 We have yet to have the problem and the benefit clearly

- 1 defined to us. And we ask that you pass that message
- 2 along, because we can fix this.
- 3 Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you. Gary
- 5 Van Dorst to be followed by John McNamara. The City of
- 6 Redlands.
- 7 MR. VAN DORST: Good afternoon. For the record,
- 8 Gary Van Dorst, solid waste manager for the City of
- 9 Redlands. The City of Redlands' staff have participated
- 10 in SCAQMD's rule-making process for PR 1133. We formally
- 11 commented on both PR 1133 and on the iteration of this
- 12 rule 1133(b).
- In the interests of brevity I'd like to begin by
- 14 mentioning that we've provided copies of these comments to
- 15 the Waste Board staff. The Waste Board should be apprised
- 16 that the City Council of the City of Redlands has directed
- 17 city staff to participate in the rule-making process and
- 18 further that the Redlands City Council authorize staff to
- 19 communicate with local legislators to make them aware of
- 20 the potential impacts to Redlands residents.
- 21 I'd like to take a minute to highlight just some
- 22 of our concerns. First and foremost, the cost of
- 23 complying with PR 1133(b), as currently proposed, is
- 24 simply prohibitive. Consider the City of Redlands
- 25 situation. We utilize a private composting facility to

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- 1 process the city's green waste. The cost of the building
- 2 enclosure requirement for that facility would likely cost
- 3 in excess of about six and half million dollars. That's
- 4 based on a very conservative assumption of construction at
- 5 a cost of \$15 a square foot. The actual cost is probably
- 6 closer to about \$25 a square foot.
- 7 The cost of financing the building enclosure
- 8 requirement over 20 years would be about \$635,000 a year.
- 9 That doesn't include the enormous energy costs required
- 10 under 1133 associated with air exchange and emission
- 11 controls nor does it include the cost of converting from
- 12 and aerated windrow process to either static aeration or
- 13 an in-vessel process.
- 14 If just the cost of the building enclosure was
- 15 passed on to the city, the rate impact to the city's rate
- 16 payers would be \$3 per month per household. Such an
- 17 increase would come at a time when municipalities such as
- 18 Redlands are struggling to get from an average of about 42
- 19 percent, that's where our standard calculator puts us
- 20 right now, to close the gap between that diversion rate
- 21 and 50 percent.
- 22 Of course, no bank would finance the capital for
- 23 such an improvement, in the absence of a 20-year put or
- 24 payment agreement on the basis of which our contractor
- 25 would be able to collateralize the loan. And, of course,

- 1 we're not aware of any agreement in our region that
- 2 involves 20 year put or payment or 20 year terms. And can
- 3 you imagine what the lender's rights clauses would have to
- 4 be in such an agreement for the bank to feel comfortable
- 5 about collateralizing that term of a loan.
- 6 Again, we've provided Waste Board staff with our
- 7 comments. And, in conclusion, we believe that PR 1133
- 8 incentivizes land-filling. We believe that it will force
- 9 some facilities out of business, potentially resulting in
- 10 a net increase of air emissions due to the long haul of
- 11 waste outside of the region.
- 12 We believe that PR 1133 is likely to further
- 13 incentivize the abuse of green waste as ADC due to the
- 14 destruction of compost markets. And, finally, we believe
- 15 that this rule will make local compliance with AB 939
- 16 onerous and very expensive. There are effective
- 17 alternatives to the building enclosure requirements.
- 18 Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- John McNamara, Taormina Industries to be followed
- 21 by John Richardson.
- MR. McNAMARA: Good afternoon, Board Members.
- 23 Thank you very much for the opportunity for us to speak on
- 24 this. I come from industry. I work for Taormina
- 25 Industries, and we provide solid waste services, including

- 1 collection, processing, recycling and disposal to seven
- 2 cities in the northern Orange County and two cities in San
- 3 Bernardino County. I'm commenting on Proposed Rule 1133.
- 4 We've provided the written comments that we've
- 5 made to AQMD to you. We've CC'd you on those, so I'm
- 6 going to boil my comments down to a couple of key issues,
- 7 and I'd like to title my issues, "All Dressed Up and
- 8 Nowhere To Go".
- 9 We serve cities and residents who are faced with
- 10 the significant task of achieving the AB 939 compliance
- 11 goals. And we're a partner with them in doing that. AB
- 12 939 compliance has required significant efforts on their
- 13 parts and on our parts to achieve what we've achieved to
- 14 this point, and that has included a great amount of
- 15 expense and capital cost to get trucks and facilities to
- 16 collect green waste materials and implement green waste
- 17 collection programs.
- And that's been a tremendous effort, tremendous
- 19 capital expense, and it's not been a little task. It's
- 20 been a great effort and there's been a great success in
- 21 that. And you've seen from the numbers that you have that
- 22 green waste collection and processing has resulted in a
- 23 tremendous amount of diversion from landfill disposal.
- 24 What we see in Orange County is that
- 25 approximately 2,000 tons per day of green waste, and this

- 1 is base on August data, which is about 26 percent of the
- 2 overall waste stream is diverted from landfills at this
- 3 time.
- 4 The cities rely on those markets that those green
- 5 waste materials are now going to and the stable costs that
- 6 are associated with those to be able to achieve the goals
- 7 of AB 939 and to provide those services to their rate
- 8 payers and at a reasonable price. So we need to process
- 9 this material. We need the processors, even though we're
- 10 limited in what we do in terms of composting and their --
- 11 and the AQMD staff is talking about limiting the rule
- 12 requirements for chippers and grinders which we do a
- 13 tremendous amount of.
- 14 We still need the end uses. And so we need a
- 15 place for this material to go. If it doesn't have a place
- 16 to go, then all effort that we've made towards collecting
- 17 and providing facilities to move this material out to end
- 18 uses will be for nothing. This rule, we believe, will be
- 19 based on the comments you've heard to this point. And the
- 20 written comments you've gotten will severely limit those
- 21 facilities, if not, completely close them down. And so
- 22 the end uses, the places for this material to go, will
- 23 just go away.
- 24 We're not sure what would happen in the absence
- 25 of those facilities, but, you know, we'll be stuck with

- 1 all the infrastructure and vehicles and all the cans and
- 2 everything else that's been put in place to collect these
- 3 things and we'll have nowhere to bring it to.
- 4 That concludes my comments. Thank you, again,
- 5 for allowing us to talk to you.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 7 John Richardson, Community Recycling to be
- 8 followed by Jim Sullivan.
- 9 MR. RICHARDSON: Good afternoon, Madam Chair and
- 10 Board Members. I would like to thank the Board for their
- 11 active participation displayed so far in this very
- 12 important issue. I have attended every meeting that the
- 13 AQMD has had on this issue so far, and I've asked what
- 14 data do they have as it applies to green waste facilities?
- 15 And they've said they've had none. I've offered
- 16 them tours of our facilities, both our green waste
- 17 grinding operation out in Sun Valley as well as our Kern
- 18 County green waste compost facility. Every time they've
- 19 nodded their heads and said that they would contact me,
- 20 and to date I have not heard from them. In addition, I've
- 21 written two letters offering tours.
- 22 What doesn't make sense is that I'm one of -- our
- 23 facility is one of the largest green waste receiving and
- 24 grinding and transferring facilities in southern
- 25 California. And, in addition, we also have, I believe,

- 1 the largest green waste compost facility in the State.
- 2 The air district's proposed rule would also
- 3 require enclosing facilities. Just to enclose our green
- 4 waste receiving transfer station out in Sun Valley would
- 5 require approximately a three-acre building with very
- 6 special air handling equipment.
- 7 This cost would be approximately \$12 million.
- 8 How would we recoup this cost? Our customers, the cities,
- 9 usually have us bid on one-year contracts which
- 10 occasionally they have some options on them for additional
- 11 renewals, but it's still a one-year contract.
- 12 Will the cities be able to absorb those
- 13 increases? In today's budget economy and budget conscious
- 14 economy, I'm not sure.
- 15 What concerns me even more is that this rule
- 16 expands into the San Joaquin Valley District, and requires
- 17 our 190-acre compost facility to also be enclosed. This
- 18 would just not even be feasible and it would put us out of
- 19 business.
- Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- Jim Sullivan, Association of Compost Producers to
- 23 be followed by Scott Deatherage.
- MR. SULLIVAN: Madam Chair, Members of the Board,
- 25 thank you for this opportunity. My name is Jim Sullivan.

- 1 I am the President of the Association of Compost
- 2 Producers. And our primary concerns are survival, at this
- 3 point in time.
- 4 Most of us are privately held small independent
- 5 providers that have worked within the framework of larger
- 6 haulers, municipalities and jurisdictions. The services
- 7 we provide are economic and efficient. As has been
- 8 stated, all of our revenues are based on contracts that
- 9 are short-term in duration. The economics of this
- 10 situation make it an impossibility for us to meet the
- 11 proposed regulations of PR 1133.
- 12 Additionally, specifically the enclosure of
- 13 storage and cure make it impossible for anybody regardless
- 14 of the economics to comply with this issue. When you
- 15 think about the length of time it takes for compost to
- 16 mature, six months to a year, depending on the facility,
- 17 and the storage that's required, again, because of the
- 18 seasonality and cyclic conditions of our markets, it's not
- 19 feasible.
- 20 This rule should be performance based and not
- 21 prescriptive. It completely obligates -- it doesn't
- 22 obligate, but it restricts us to a single form of
- 23 compliance without opportunity for initiative or better
- 24 thought or process.
- 25 There are some charts that show what the costs

- 1 are.
- 2 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was
- 3 presented as follows.)
- 4 MR. SULLIVAN: This is just a very simple
- 5 comparison. These numbers are dollars per ton of costs
- 6 per day of capital, Las Virgineous, which is the example
- 7 which was given to us early on in this by the AQMD,
- 8 approaches more than \$800,000 per ton per day for
- 9 construction costs.
- 10 After their improvements, it's still going to be
- 11 in excess of \$400,000. These lower numbers here represent
- 12 what private enterprise can do, but even the most
- 13 efficient and the largest facilities exceed \$25,000 per
- 14 ton per day of capital costs.
- This is a cost that's going to be disastrous to
- 16 our industry. We've made several environmentally sound
- 17 diversion capabilities over the last 10 years. However,
- 18 the solutions that are being imposed by this rule would
- 19 completely destroy that situation. The rule is
- 20 specifically saying it's looking for ammonia and PM 10.
- 21 We feel that this is not necessarily the
- 22 situation, that ammonia is a waste product of not aerobic
- 23 conditions, which we as composters maintain, but rather
- 24 anaerobic. We ask that you consider funding additional
- 25 opportunities for study, for comparison of both the

- 1 information, which the AQMD is amassing, and correlate it
- 2 to industry as a broader whole.
- We thank you for this opportunity.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you. Scott
- 5 Deatherage of the San Joaquin Composting to be followed by
- 6 John Gulleage.
- 7 MR. DEATHERAGE: Madam Chair and the Board, thank
- 8 you for the opportunity. My name is Scott Deatherage.
- 9 I'm with San Joaquin composting, McCarthy Family Farms.
- 10 We're a large scale composting facility up in Kern County.
- 11 Our main concern about this, yeah, we're out of
- 12 the South Coast AQMD, but most of our feedstock comes from
- 13 the south coast area. But more importantly, I think our
- 14 biggest concern is that right now we're in rule
- 15 development for PM 10 in the San Joaquin valley district.
- 16 And often times and more times than not, they just pick up
- 17 the South Coast rule and just adopt it into the central
- 18 valley.
- 19 Within probably three to five years, I would see
- 20 this rule hitting us really hard in the central valley.
- 21 No question, we're in 120-acres of compost facility.
- 22 We've composted about four million tons of municipal waste
- 23 in the last ten years. If we had to enclose a 120-acre
- 24 compost site, there's no way. The economics aren't there.
- 25 I think we really need to study the economics here. I

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- 1 think we need to really look at the economics, the cost of
- 2 emissions reductions per dollar spent for -- you know, we
- 3 need to do a cost benefit analysis.
- 4 I don't think that the tonnage or the emissions
- 5 reductions that they were looking at here, I think were
- 6 minuscule compared to the cost of this. And so those are
- 7 my points.
- 8 Thank you.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 10 John Gulleage, Los Angeles County Sanitation
- 11 District to be followed by Patrick Heaney.
- 12 MR. GULLEAGE: Good afternoon, Madam Chair and
- 13 Board Members, John Gulleage, LA County Sanitation
- 14 District.
- 15 I'm in charge of the District's Solid Waste
- 16 Management Department. You heard one of my co-workers
- 17 earlier, Greg Adams, who talked to you about the other
- 18 side of our business which is bio-solids or waste water
- 19 treatment.
- Just a few comments about the rule. We have
- 21 submitted letters to you that you have on file for the
- 22 record as well. But some comments about the rule.
- 23 First of all, we heard earlier the rule target is
- 24 VOCs and ammonia emissions, ammonia being a surrogate, I
- 25 guess, for precursors of PM 10. We've also heard a little

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- 1 bit about there are some other objectives behind the rule
- 2 concerning dust and odor.
- 3 Who's going to be impacted a from a solid waste
- 4 perspective, not looking at it as for waste water issues
- 5 here. Basically, it's going to be all chipping
- 6 facilities, landfills, transfer stations, materials
- 7 recovery facilities.
- 8 What are their requirements? We heard the AQMD
- 9 staff talk about basically a compliance plan, but within
- 10 that compliance plan, at least as I understand it at this
- 11 point, there's some issues there of concern to us.
- 12 Basically, there's some monitoring programs, monitoring
- 13 for VOCs, monitoring for temperature associated with the
- 14 green waste piles that you may have on site, things of
- 15 record keeping and other things associated with the
- 16 compliance plans as well.
- 17 But those bring issues forward and concerns to an
- 18 operator of the landfill for usages of the materials that
- 19 we generate. Now, in terms of the types of things these
- 20 get used for, you know, we have a green waste grinding
- 21 operation associated with our landfills. It goes to ADC.
- 22 It goes to composting. It goes to erosion control. It
- 23 goes to agricultural purposes. So there's a whole myriad
- 24 of impacts, potential impacts, on a lot of different
- 25 issues.

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- 1 We're hearing a lot from composters tonight, but
- 2 it also impacts the ADC portion of this. And the reason I
- 3 say that is when you get into looking at the rule, it
- 4 starts talking about temperature issues and requirements
- 5 for keeping the temperature of the material below certain
- 6 levels. This is going to create issues of compliance at
- 7 landfills for the ADC that we receive.
- 8 Often times, we may receive materials coming in
- 9 to the site at the outset that may exceed these numbers,
- 10 which create problems for us.
- 11 Now, you're in violation of the rule. So that's
- 12 an issue that we don't take lightly. It's certainly of
- 13 concern, because we always want to be in compliance with
- 14 the rules and requirements.
- 15 As you go through the rule, other things jump out
- 16 at us. And, again, it is related to the composting side.
- 17 We read it. We do see significant impacts on that
- 18 industry in terms of how they're going to be in compliance
- 19 with those rules. It's not often, I guess, but some of
- 20 these meetings I find myself on the same side of the table
- 21 with them. But we are concerned about the rule. We do
- 22 think that there are issues here that need to be addressed
- 23 more fully and completely, and as it relates to how it
- 24 relates to ADC, because we do see a need for this to be
- 25 exempted potentially or we need some sort of criteria here

- 1 on storage limits.
- 2 I quess my time is up, so I will wrap it up at
- 3 that point.
- 4 Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 6 Patrick Heaney, Apollo Wood Recovery, to be
- 7 followed by Michelle Randall.
- 8 MR. HEANEY: Board members, I'm Pat Heaney. I
- 9 think everything that I had to say has already been said.
- 10 I oppose the rule. It's financially unfeasible to adhere
- 11 to this rule. And there's simply no way to recover what
- 12 costs would be required.
- 13 Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 15 Michelle Randall, resident, to be followed by
- 16 Matt Cotton.
- MS. RANDALL: Ladies and gentlemen, my name is
- 18 Michelle Randall. I'm speaking in favor of Rule 1133. I
- 19 recently visited the Needes Murphy in Rocklin County, New
- 20 York. Really cool.
- 21 What made it neat was the attitudes of the
- 22 government, the people who run it and the residents in
- 23 general, back there. They are focused on achieving 100
- 24 percent recycling and they're getting there for their
- 25 county.

- 1 They take the stuff that they sort and they
- 2 recycle it and they return it to each city. The kids vote
- 3 on where they're going to spend it for the children. One
- 4 little town last year made \$38,000 and put in a new park.
- 5 Under those conditions, best management practices
- 6 worked. Here we have AB 939 and Proposed Rule 1133 in the
- 7 hopes that we can force people to recycle. Kind of a
- 8 sorry thing, best management practices don't really work
- 9 where the best management is making lots and lots of money
- 10 from recycling.
- I live in Corona. I'm about two miles from
- 12 Synagro Composting Site, El Sobrante Landfill and Force
- 13 Fiber Wood Chipping Facilities, all in a little group.
- 14 I've been a strong opponent of the Synagro facility,
- 15 because I have first-hand knowledge of exactly how their
- 16 ammonia and VOC emissions have affected my neighbors and
- 17 me. This is from two miles away.
- I supported the expansion of El Sobrante Landfill
- 19 strongly. I spoke in their behalf. I was assured that
- 20 traffic and diesel fumes would not really increase with
- 21 the expansion because the garbage would be hauled in just
- 22 in larger trailers. Well, they've got their expansion.
- 23 The traffic is terrific. The diesel fumes are increasing
- 24 and that's why we need 1133.
- 25 I like the kids that run Force Fiber. I've never

- 1 complained about their operation. Unfortunately, they
- 2 have now changed to chipping at night to stay away from
- 3 complaints to the AQMD about the dust. I work nights and
- 4 when I come home a lot of times I can hardly see the
- 5 lights because of the dust from their chipping operation.
- 6 That's PM 10.
- 7 As you all know, Force Fiber's PM 10 and
- 8 Cinigrow's emissions all add on more smog, which adds on
- 9 to El Sobrante Landfill, which is why we need 1133.
- 10 There's a saying out there, "If it ain't broke, don't fix
- 11 it". Well, these folks that are running these outfits and
- 12 are profiting are figuring it ain't broke. Unfortunately,
- 13 I'm a resident. I can look around and see that it is
- 14 broke, and I sure hope that you guys will help fix it.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- Matt Cotton, IWMC to be followed by Sean Edgar.
- 17 MR. COTTON: Thank you very much, Madam Chair.
- 18 Matt Cotton, Integrated Waste Management Consulting,
- 19 Nevada City. Just, first of all, a house keeping matter,
- 20 here's a letter from Inland Empire Utilities Agency. They
- 21 weren't able to attend the meeting, but I want to submit
- 22 their testimony.
- 23 And, you know, I understand we've got a time
- 24 frame here and I'd really love to try to summarize all of
- 25 my points in three minutes. I can't do it. I've been

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- 1 rewriting it back there for the last ten, so I'm going to
- 2 try to keep it brief, hit some hot points.
- 3 Here's the good news. The good news is this
- 4 Board and your staff have done an excellent job of
- 5 responding to this rule. I think it's appropriate. It's
- 6 been professional. It's been timely. And I think you and
- 7 especially your staff deserve a big round of applause for
- 8 that for taking it seriously, understanding the impacts of
- 9 this proposed rule, which are potentially devastating.
- 10 I'm not going to highlight the bad news. If
- 11 there's any good news out of this, it's highlighted
- 12 perhaps, or raised the profile of organics diversion, how
- 13 important it is. Four million tons of organics diversion
- 14 in just these four counties, 170 jurisdictions, four
- 15 million tons of green waste. That's huge. This is
- 16 incredible.
- 17 I find it a little ironic being here almost a
- 18 year later, October 5th, 2000, Jeff Watson of your staff,
- 19 John Richardson, Michelle a few other people were here
- 20 when they first rolled this rule out. Then about nine
- 21 months went by and suddenly we've got to get this rule
- 22 done by the end of the year.
- 23 So I think if there's anything to come out of
- 24 this, we've -- well, two things, AQMD and the Waste Board
- 25 have to work closely. I know you guys have made as many

- 1 overtures as you possibly can. You're working diligently
- 2 to try to work with the AQMD. This meeting is an
- 3 excellent example of that and I applaud that.
- 4 Clearly, the implementation schedule of this rule
- 5 has got to be moved back. This is just way to fast a
- 6 track, given that we have not spent nearly enough time on
- 7 this issue, based on what we've heard and things we
- 8 haven't even had brought up yet, as far as the lack of
- 9 data, the cost impacts, the diversion impacts. We need
- 10 some time to really consider this.
- 11 And with that, I'll yield to other speakers.
- 12 Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr.
- 14 Cotton.
- 15 Sean Edgar to be followed by Kelly Astor.
- MR. EDGAR: Madam Chair and Board Members, Sean
- 17 Edgar on behalf of the California Refuse Removal Council,
- 18 a nonprofit association made up of more than 100 private
- 19 independent solid waste and recycling companies throughout
- 20 the State of California. Thanks for the opportunity to
- 21 let me address very briefly some of the issues. I won't
- 22 belabor the details. Dad always told me don't beat a dead
- 23 horse, but I wanted to add just a few comments.
- 24 With regard to applauding the Waste Board's
- 25 leadership and your staff, in particular for moving

- 1 forward on the latest package recognizing that there are
- 2 in Title 14 a consistent improvement, I wanted to
- 3 recognize your staff and your efforts to improve the
- 4 situation of compost throughout the State. Also, I wanted
- 5 to indicate that we respect your authority in enhancing
- 6 our ability as service providers to more effectively
- 7 maintain our resource recovery programs and operations at
- 8 over 100 material recovery facilities and transfer
- 9 stations, 20 compost facilities in the State.
- 10 That having been said, Ms. Friedman echoed our --
- 11 I echo Ms. Friedman's sentiments about the collection
- 12 network that has been established. Our companies are
- 13 intimately involved in many of the more than 520 curbside
- 14 collection programs throughout the State. We perform that
- 15 collection. We process through chipping and grinding and
- 16 into composting facilities. And whereas, Ms. Tabor from
- 17 air district staff indicates that the district is serious
- 18 about VOC reductions, we're also serious about air
- 19 quality, environmental protection, because that's our job
- 20 every day of the week, but we're also serious about
- 21 fulfilling our contracts and obligations under AB 939.
- 22 Specifically, AB 939 for our companies indicates
- 23 an investment made to build a reliable and sustainable
- 24 system of solid waste handling. Why have we done that?
- 25 That's State law to do that that's been on the books since

- 1 1989. How do we do that? Who's on the hook?
- 2 Well, yeah, cities and counties and jurisdictions
- 3 are responsible. Our companies are also and the ownership
- 4 of our companies in many cases are individually
- 5 responsible for maintaining compliance with that law via
- 6 our contracts. We are serious about maintaining our
- 7 contracts. We're also very serious about wanting to work
- 8 with district staff to try and achieve a rule which is
- 9 workable, and we offer our expertise, if we have any, in
- 10 the matter.
- I'll leave with our hope that just as our
- 12 long-term approach towards solid waste handling and
- 13 recycling is substantial that that approach must be met
- 14 with consideration being based that any significant change
- 15 such as the district's proposed rule must be based on
- 16 weighing benefits and costs and performing something
- 17 achievable. Sound policies based on sound science is our
- 18 hopes for this process.
- 19 Thank you for your time.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 21 Kelly Astor, CRRC followed by Paul Relis.
- MR. ASTOR: Thank you, Madam Chair and Members.
- 23 Kelly Astor representing CRRC southern district, the
- 24 Inland Empire Disposal Association, the Solid Waste
- 25 Association of Orange County and also the Los Angeles

- 1 County Waste Management Association. I currently serve as
- 2 general counsel for each such organization.
- 3 You've already heard about inadequate testing,
- 4 flawed data and economic impacts. I received an estimate
- 5 earlier today at lunch that the compliance costs
- 6 associated with this rule could exceed \$3 billion. Let me
- 7 add to that that as a lawyer in the solid waste industry,
- 8 I am very familiar with dozens, perhaps several dozen,
- 9 franchise agreements, which is the primary device by which
- 10 our members are regulated and offer the services that they
- 11 do.
- 12 I can tell you that increasingly those contracts
- 13 provide for guarantees of AB 939 compliance. Sometimes
- 14 local jurisdictions go a step further and instill their
- 15 own requirement for waste diversion, which can exceed 50
- 16 percent. Some of them also contain prohibitions against
- 17 depositing in landfills material which could other wise be
- 18 recycled.
- 19 Every one of these contracts is at risk of being
- 20 thrown into default if this rule were to pass in its
- 21 present form. The stranded investment that would thereby
- 22 be jeopardized is another several hundred million dollars.
- I have some experience with the South Coast Air
- 24 Quality Management District. Two years ago I couldn't say
- 25 that, but I'm a survivor of Rule 1193, which has their

- 1 diesel fleet rule. And I can tell you that while staff
- 2 has been okay to deal with thus far, my experience with
- 3 1193 was very negative in that we were told throughout
- 4 that 18-month process don't worry this is a
- 5 work-in-progress, we'll work with you.
- 6 And while there was an effort made to do that, at
- 7 the end of the day, the rule did not contain the kinds of
- 8 ingredients that it should have to protect industry and to
- 9 respond to industry's legitimate concerns.
- 10 We may ultimately enjoy a different experience
- 11 here. But at this point, I'm not optimistic, because of
- 12 the very aggressive implementation schedule that this
- 13 particular staff is advancing.
- We thank you for your attention to this issue.
- 15 Other agencies need to get ahold of this. And I'm very
- 16 concerned on behalf of industry about the disaster that we
- 17 would all meet were this rule to be adopted in its present
- 18 form.
- 19 Thank you.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 21 Paul Relis CR&R Incorporated to be followed by
- 22 Chuck Tobin.
- 23 MR. RELIS: Madam Chair and members of the Board,
- 24 thanks for holding this workshop or discussion rather.
- 25 I'd like to start by just saying, in my view at least,

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- 1 we're not done with organics management. We're still in
- 2 the early phases. There's a long way to go here. And we
- 3 don't want to see this whole effort killed at this stage
- 4 with this rule the way it's drafted.
- 5 We need firm rules for continued and new
- 6 investment in this arena. I'd like to just jump to the
- 7 recommendations that I've submitted to the Chair's office.
- 8 It's a letter that I prepared to the AQMD. I think a
- 9 reasonable alternative to the cover proposal in Rule 1133,
- 10 which is clearly the back breaker here just to start with,
- 11 is to only impose cover in the bio-solids area where it's
- 12 deemed to generate -- whether deemed to generate ammonia
- 13 problems that are documented.
- 14 It could be that a fallback position for some
- 15 green waste could be aerated static pile, but again only
- 16 after -- and that would be in an open environment not
- 17 closed, but only after convincing evidence that there is
- 18 an ammonia problem from green waste operations and we
- 19 haven't seen that.
- I think at the least while this process is
- 21 playing out, there should be some communication to the
- 22 cities who hold the contracts with the private parties to
- 23 explain what the cost implications of this rule could be
- 24 and the implications indirectly to their diversion
- 25 efforts.

1 I believe that we should allow the Waste Board

- 2 process to run its course. I guess you're revisiting the
- 3 regulations for composting. You have so many of the
- 4 aspects of organics management under your purview that I
- 5 think it rightly belongs, for the most part, there and to
- 6 roll back the time frame to allow the aforementioned
- 7 analyses, public dialogue and regulatory synthesis to
- 8 occur.
- 9 We have two budding mandates. And right now
- 10 they're in almost diametrical opposition. We shouldn't be
- 11 in that position in a regulatory environment in California
- 12 in the year 2001.
- 13 Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you. Chuck
- 15 Tobin Burtec Waste Industries to be followed by
- 16 Elizabeth -- I can't quite read it, O-s-t Ostro.
- 17 MR. TOBIN: Good afternoon. I'm Chuck Tobin with
- 18 Edco Burtec. I had the pleasure of addressing you
- 19 yesterday, and I hope to look forward to addressing you
- 20 today.
- 21 Like a number of the speakers, I would very much
- 22 like to congratulate and applaud the State Board and
- 23 especially Member Jones for taking this issue seriously at
- 24 an early date. I think the correspondence from the Board
- 25 to South Coast has been a very thoughtful set of documents

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- 1 and I would certainly hope that South Coast would respond
- 2 in turn to the issues that you've raised.
- 3 One thing that concerns me right now is this, and
- 4 as Mr. Astor pointed out, many of us went through the 1193
- 5 rule, which was the Alt fuel rule. One of the experiences
- 6 that we learned there is that you need to begin an early
- 7 dialogue with the members of the South Coast Air Quality
- 8 Management Board.
- 9 Like yourselves, they are the policymakers, they
- 10 are the ultimate decision makers in the process.
- 11 Everything leading up to whatever decision they make will
- 12 be predicated basically on, like yourselves, what their
- 13 own thoughts and feelings are on the subject.
- 14 So what we would suggest is is that you consider
- 15 perhaps in your next return to southern California for
- 16 your next regularly scheduled Waste Board meeting, that
- 17 you have a joint session, a joint workshop, a joint
- 18 meeting with the members of the South Coast Air Quality
- 19 Management Board, and, at that workshop, that you discuss
- 20 two things.
- 21 The first being what is good science in this
- 22 case. I think what you've already heard is that this rule
- 23 will spill over to all the other air districts in the
- 24 State and that it will, in essence, become then an issue
- 25 which you will have to deal with statewide.

- 1 So the first issue that you would discuss with
- 2 them would be a joint research plan, so that you could
- 3 both have good science before you go to good policy.
- 4 And the second issue being that with respect to
- 5 this particular rule that your two boards together
- 6 determine what the hearing schedule should be for this
- 7 rule as to what the timing would be that would be most
- 8 appropriate for your calendars, your respective calendars.
- 9 Otherwise, what I fear is that what you will hear. I
- 10 spent plenty of time at this podium in the 1193 process.
- 11 It's a little ironic to find myself back in the same room.
- 12 But the same set of speakers will be forced to go
- 13 back and forth from the South Coast board to your board to
- 14 the South Coast board to your board. And, basically, what
- 15 we're looking for is perhaps that between the two of you,
- 16 you can devise a process whereby you can collect the
- 17 research and determine a hearing schedule that will be
- 18 productive for both boards.
- 19 So on that, thank you very much.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 21 Elizabeth, is it Oster?
- MS. OSTOICH: It's Ostoich.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Oh, okay, I
- 24 couldn't read it.
- MS. OSTOICH: That's a tough one.

1 Elizabeth Ostoich with Greschun, Savage, Nolan

- 2 and Tilden representing Synagro.
- 3 Ladies and gentlemen, Synagro operates in 38
- 4 states and it's a publicly traded company. And I heard
- 5 somebody mention earlier that the mom and pop type
- 6 operations can't afford to do this. Well, let me tell you
- 7 that the publicly traded, well-funded corporations can't
- 8 even afford to comply with Rule 1133 as proposed.
- 9 There are very few things -- I'm going to speak
- 10 primarily to you about bio-solids. There are very few
- 11 things that can be done with bio-solids. We're running
- 12 out of options.
- 13 Synagro primarily looks to reuse bio-solids
- 14 because of the high nitrogen value of the organics. And
- 15 we have to just face it that bio-solids happen. This
- 16 district produces approximately 5,000 tons per day in
- 17 bio-solids. And if Rule 1133, which requires full
- 18 enclosure, not just the active portions of the compost,
- 19 but total enclosure of the facility were to take place,
- 20 the Synagro operation couldn't make it. None of the
- 21 operations could make it.
- The reason is that to fully enclose a compost
- 23 facility on a conservative end would cost approximately
- 24 \$60 million. To enclose our facility would cost
- 25 approximately \$60 million. We have run estimates to

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- 1 enclose the active portions plus the receiving and one
- 2 aerated static pile on the back-end of the compost
- 3 facility and that costs over \$40 million, which is an
- 4 extreme amount of money.
- 5 Given that Synagro at its current location at
- 6 best has only eight years left on its permit, there's no
- 7 way we could amortize that cost at the current site with
- 8 that much time left on the permit. In addition to the
- 9 above referenced capital costs, Synagro would have to pay
- 10 approximately \$2.5 million per year in increased energy
- 11 costs in order to fully enclose the facility.
- 12 While front-end enclosure is doable in some
- 13 circumstances and for certain bio-solids facilities, it's
- 14 not doable for green waste facilities, and it's not doable
- 15 for all bio-solids compost facilities and certainly isn't
- 16 necessary for all bio-solids compost facilities, because
- 17 some are in more remote locations. And the primary reason
- 18 to enclose is to contain odors.
- 19 Compose facilities are regulated by the
- 20 California Integrated Waste Management Board, yourselves,
- 21 by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, by the EPA
- 22 through 503 regulations, and by the AQMD. If the AQMD
- 23 rule passes, you can imagine that some of our local
- 24 governments are going to want to open up our permits and
- 25 take another look.

- 1 It's hard enough to get your permit for the first
- 2 time, but if you have to enclose your compost facility and
- 3 make major changes to your operations, all of our permits
- 4 are subject to be reopened and relooked at. In addition
- 5 to the fact that Synagro couldn't operate at its current
- 6 site, we're looking at relocating the facility. In
- 7 relocating the facility, we're looking at front-end active
- 8 enclosure.
- 9 But our market analysis reveals that if full
- 10 enclosure were required, tip fees -- now full enclosure,
- 11 back end also, tip fees would increase above \$60 a ton.
- 12 And I can tell you our market analysis reveals that
- 13 generators aren't going to pay in the \$60 per ton range.
- 14 They're going to truck out of the basin or they're going
- 15 to divert to landfills.
- 16 Trucking and landfilling create a different set
- 17 of emissions that the AQMD has not yet considered. And we
- 18 have to consider that eventually Arizona, and other states
- 19 and counties will have had enough, and we then when
- 20 they've had enough, they've taken all of our bio-solids
- 21 for so long, we won't have the local infrastructure to
- 22 handle our own waste streams if we drive composting out of
- 23 business.
- To put this in perspective -- I'll speak quickly.
- 25 To put this in perspective, the basin creates about 5,000

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- 1 tons per day in bio-solids. Now, this is bio-solids only.
- 2 Las Virginous cost between \$20 million and \$25 million to
- 3 build, a fully enclosed compost facility. And they treat
- 4 27 tons a day.
- 5 If you multiply that out -- 27 tons per day. If
- 6 you multiply that out, it would cost the compost industry,
- 7 again, bio-solids only, \$3.7 billion to comply with this
- 8 rule. And why?
- 9 Because we're looking at a three-tenths of one
- 10 percent reduction in emissions. That's what we're trying
- 11 to achieve by Rule 1133, three-tenths of one percent.
- 12 Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 14 Mary Motava. I hope I'm pronouncing that one
- 15 right, because that's our last speaker.
- 16 MS. MOTAVA: Like everyone else here, I'd like to
- 17 thank you very much for taking the time to consider and to
- 18 help the composting industry with some of the decisions
- 19 that need to be made in the very near future with PR 1133.
- I am the owner and operator of two compost
- 21 facilities, and process a total of nearly 100,000 tons a
- 22 year. Thankfully, one of my facilities is not within this
- 23 district jurisdiction, so I am very thankful for that.
- 24 But I do know that these regulations tend to have a kind
- 25 of wave effect into the other jurisdictions.

- 1 To date, 100 percent of our material that we
- 2 produce from our compost has been used in the
- 3 agricultural, urban horticultural and slope stabilization
- 4 industries. I've attended some of the meetings that AQMD
- 5 has had, and I'm very distressed when I listen to the
- 6 comments by staff. There is no trust here with the AQMD
- 7 staff.
- 8 There are at least six different agencies, public
- 9 agencies, that inspect my facilities. And every single
- 10 time I deal with one of the agencies inspecting, I usually
- 11 hear real discouraging remarks about how they're
- 12 understaffed and they're underfunded. And I just don't
- 13 really understand why South Coast AQMD would take a rule
- 14 this far, hope to get it approved in January, when they
- 15 haven't even done the emissions testing.
- 16 My background is in agricultural chemistry. As a
- 17 scientist, I have real problems with deciding on what the
- 18 outcome should be and then doing tests at the last minute.
- 19 They have no protocol set up for the testing that they're
- 20 going to do, and yet they have come to the conclusions
- 21 already.
- 22 I sincerely hope that your board can work
- 23 directly with the Board of South Coast AQMD and, again,
- 24 hold some joint meetings so that maybe we can get to the
- 25 bottom of this. We all want clean air. We all want to do

- 1 what's right, but there's absolutely no way that I, as an
- 2 operator, can stay in business if this rule goes through.
- 3 Thank you very much for your time.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 5 I'd like to thank all the speakers and I really
- 6 thank you for your cooperation on the time limit.
- 7 We're sorry we had to impose a time limit, but as
- 8 you can see there are a lot of speakers.
- 9 At this time, I'd like to open it up briefly to
- 10 board members, questions, comments.
- Mr. Jones.
- 12 BOARD MEMBER JONES: Madam Chair, I'll do it
- 13 briefly because I know people have planes to catch. I
- 14 want to thank everybody, the Air District and the
- 15 participants. The reason that we had this item today was
- 16 to see what the impacts of PR 1133 would be on the
- 17 statewide possibilities of meeting AB 939. I think it's
- 18 pretty clear that we heard an awful lot of dialogue.
- 19 I've heard in two meetings that, in fact, the
- 20 industry will build these facilities. I'd like to see the
- 21 operator that is going to build an enclosed facility to
- 22 continue his composting operation?
- Just raise your hand.
- Okay, seeing none, I guess that's what I've been
- 25 trying to get across through these workgroups that, in

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- 1 fact, this will not be one or two businesses that go out
- 2 of business. This will be an entire industry. And what
- 3 I'm afraid of is all of that green waste ends up in
- 4 landfills. All of the sewer sludge ends up in landfills.
- 5 Landfills will then become the repository not only of the
- 6 material in this basin, but statewide we are not going to
- 7 be able to continue the mandate of AB 939 if a region that
- 8 houses 60 percent of the -- almost 60 percent of the
- 9 population cannot comply.
- 10 That's my concern. That's what I wanted to hear.
- 11 And I do want to continue to work with the air district.
- 12 You know a lot of people thank me. You need to thank our
- 13 Chairman and this Board who understood right away what the
- 14 impacts of this rule were going to be on our mandate.
- 15 There was ten years of social change through AB 939 that
- 16 is at risk through this program.
- 17 We want to see clean air in southern California.
- 18 We understand your mandate. What we are -- what I am
- 19 confused about is why we can't work to figure out best
- 20 management practices with performance standards after
- 21 we've accumulated the data, as opposed to buildings which
- 22 we're not sure of those outcomes. That's the dialogue
- 23 that I think we need to have, because there are techniques
- 24 and there are obviously, through testimony, people here
- 25 that are willing to do those techniques to comply.

- 1 And I hope and I really want to thank the
- 2 Chairwoman and the members that have seen that this is
- 3 critical to a ten-year social change and to the compliance
- 4 of AB 939. And I hope that the Chairwoman allows me to
- 5 continue to keep working on this project with the Air
- 6 District and with the Board.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 8 Thank you, Mr. Jones and we'll go to Mr. Eaton
- 9 and then to Mr. Paparian.
- 10 BOARD MEMBER EATON: I'd just like to echo Mr.
- 11 Jones' sentiments as well, and thank all of you. But I
- 12 have -- is it proper to ask questions just briefly of our
- 13 staff and the air district staff --
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Certainly.
- BOARD MEMBER EATON: -- under this format?
- 16 If, indeed, as the individual representing
- 17 Synagro mentioned, that this represents three-tenths of
- 18 one percent of the emissions, what represents the other 99
- 19 and seven-tenths percent of ammonia emissions or the
- 20 emissions of what you're trying to do? Where do they come
- 21 from in the basin?
- 22 ORGANICS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY BRANCH MANAGER
- 23 FRIEDMAN: Madam Chair, I think it's best if South Coast
- 24 Air District answers that question.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.

- 1 MS. TABER: This rule, the emissions for ammonia
- 2 right now is about 5.4 tons per day, we estimate, is
- 3 coming from composting operations. And the rule is
- 4 seeking to get a four-ton per day reduction that's for
- 5 ammonia.
- 6 For VOCs, the inventory is about 2.6 tons per
- 7 day, and we're seeking a reduction of 2.3 tons per day
- 8 reduction. So that is about a medium size rule. We write
- 9 rules for emission reductions that are less than that.
- 10 For VOCs, the majority of the emissions are
- 11 mobile sources. And I think a number of the people
- 12 commented on some rule-making that we've had with respect
- 13 to reducing emissions from mobile sources from the PM 10
- 14 standpoint and then the California Air Resources Board
- 15 establishes standards for automobiles.
- BOARD MEMBER EATON: The four ton reduction that
- 17 you're trying to seek out of the 5.4, are those all from
- 18 these particular types of operations?
- MS. TABER: Yes, just from composting operations.
- 20 BOARD MEMBER EATON: What is the generation that
- 21 makes up the total amount of emissions in ammonia, what
- 22 sources? It can't just be compost.
- MS. TABER: No, it's a lot of different kind of
- 24 sources.
- 25 BOARD MEMBER EATON: I mean is there a regulatory

- 1 scheme that are imposed upon them at the current time?
- MS. TABER: Yes, because we have such a serious
- 3 air quality problem, all sources --
- 4 BOARD MEMBER EATON: I lived here.
- 5 MS. TABER: Yeah, so all sources are regulated
- 6 and so we seek to get emissions reductions.
- 7 BOARD MEMBER EATON: Okay. And then I just have
- 8 one other, the time line, in the several years that I've
- 9 been on this Board and also just in public service in and
- 10 out, a 60-day compliance on a rule seems to be quite
- 11 extreme. And I know that your board has always had that,
- 12 but what is the process, in your experience, in extending
- 13 that past a 60-day where people have to be brought into
- 14 compliance?
- MS. TABER: Well, in this particular rule, they
- 16 have -- in the latest version, they have up to the year
- 17 2004 to install the controls. So maybe I'm not
- 18 understanding what you mean by the 60 days.
- 19 BOARD MEMBER EATON: Maybe I have an old document
- 20 here that talks about that the Rule 1133 requires a
- 21 compliance plan no later than March 1st, 2002, which is 60
- 22 days or less than 60 days after the Board would take
- 23 action.
- 24 MS. TABER: Certainly. There's actually two
- 25 provisions. One is the compliance plan provision that

- 1 people would establish what measures to reduce emissions,
- 2 and we are looking to extending that time frame. We've
- 3 gotten some comments on that, but the actual requirement
- 4 to install controls they have up to 2004.
- 5 BOARD MEMBER EATON: Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 7 Mr. Paparian.
- 8 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: Yeah. Thank you, Madam
- 9 Chair, just briefly a couple of comments. The issue of
- 10 whether this is a very small component of the overall air
- 11 pollution problem in southern California or a bigger
- 12 component I'd caution my friends in the audience and my
- 13 friends on the Board that the South Coast Air District is
- 14 in a very tough position in that they have to go after a
- 15 lot of seemingly small sources in order to attack the air
- 16 pollution problem in southern California.
- 17 So my advice would be to look to the substance of
- 18 the rules, look at the numbers issues, how much is really
- 19 being emitted from these sources, whether there are
- 20 alternative ways to, you know, reduce the emissions, then
- 21 some of the suggestions that have been made.
- 22 But in terms of this being a seemingly small
- 23 component of the air quality problem in southern
- 24 California, again, that's what the South Coast Air
- 25 District is trying to do is get a lot of these seemingly

- 1 small things to add up to something bigger in order to
- 2 address the air quality problem in southern California.
- 3 And I don't mean that to diminish, in any way,
- 4 the arguments that have been made today, other than to
- 5 just try to put in perspective that the air quality
- 6 problem in southern California is a very tough issue to
- 7 deal with that involves dealing with a lot of sources.
- 8 The other thing I wanted to mention, though, was
- 9 it seems that there are three -- from what I know, there's
- 10 three sources of this type of emission. We heard about
- 11 two of them today, one being bio-solids related, one being
- 12 green waste related. The third one, I think, was just
- 13 mentioned very briefly, is agricultural operations.
- 14 My understanding is there's something on the
- 15 order of I think it's 1.4 million tons of manure produced
- 16 in the South Coast air district perhaps that might even be
- 17 just in Riverside County, and that about 356,000 tons a
- 18 year in windrow composted of that material. And I would
- 19 imagine that that would be a very high source of ammonia
- 20 emissions from what I know and what I've smelt of those
- 21 kinds of operations.
- I'm wondering a couple of things. One is, I
- 23 wonder if there could be a response to the question about
- 24 green waste? It sounded like a lot of the data so far has
- 25 been from bio-solid related operations a few years ago,

- 1 and not really green waste operations. I wonder if we
- 2 could have a response about whether we have good data
- 3 about what really gets emitted from a green waste type
- 4 operation. And I'd also be curious as to whether similar
- 5 controls are being proposed in terms of in-vessel
- 6 composting for the manure that's being produced in the air
- 7 district.
- 8 MS. TABER: Sure. I'd be happy to respond to
- 9 those questions. First of all, with respect to green
- 10 waste, some of the source tests that we had were of
- 11 facilities that did both bio-solids and green waste. But
- 12 we heard comments from the community wanting us to do a
- 13 source test only on green waste, and so we're responding
- 14 to that public comment and we are doing a source test only
- 15 on a green waste facility to fill that additional
- 16 information.
- 17 Your second question was dealing with the manure
- 18 from dairy agricultural operations. When the manure is on
- 19 the individual dairy farm, it would not be subject to rule
- 20 1133. We have a separate rule-making process that is
- 21 looking at that kind of operation.
- Once the dairy manure, though, goes to a
- 23 composting facility, then it would be subject to Rule
- 24 1133.
- 25 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: Okay. And then some of

- 1 the people testified that they seemed to be not satisfied
- 2 with the information that's being developed on the green
- 3 waste emissions. Are you feeling like you're going to be
- 4 able to answer their questions and concerns about the type
- 5 of data that's available?
- 6 I don't know what kind of data is really being
- 7 looked at. Do you feel like your look at the green waste
- 8 is going to answer those questions that are being asked
- 9 about the emissions from green waste facilities?
- 10 MS. TABER: Yes, we do believe that's going to
- 11 happen. We have a number of interested individuals
- 12 including a representative from your staff that's
- 13 participating in the development of the protocol to
- 14 conduct that emissions source test. And then we'll be
- 15 conducting that emissions source test and we'll be sharing
- 16 it with the community.
- 17 We have our own source test information on
- 18 bio-solids. And, in addition, we've been able to collect
- 19 information from other enclosed facilities that have
- 20 bio-filters in the United States, and so those are other
- 21 sources of information, we'll be able to augment our own
- 22 data here.
- 23 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: I wonder if I just might
- 24 ask my fellow Board Member, Mr. Jones, if he's comfortable
- 25 that the type of data that people are asking for is going

- 1 to be gotten through the process that was just described.
- 2 BOARD MEMBER JONES: Thanks, Mr. Paparian.
- 3 From what I understand, is this still going to
- 4 be -- is this going to be the flux chamber test or is this
- 5 going to be this new infrared trick deal?
- 6 MS. TABER: We're actually going to be using two
- 7 instruments, one is the flux chamber. In addition, we're
- 8 going to be using another side-by-side piece of equipment
- 9 that we believe may give more accurate emissions, but
- 10 we'll have both. We'll have the flux chamber and the
- 11 newer technology.
- 12 The reason we think the newer technology will be
- 13 helpful is because the green waste composting piles are
- 14 not uniform, and it makes it difficult to get emissions
- 15 estimates off of it and we think this other technology may
- 16 be more helpful, but we'll have the flux chamber to
- 17 compare it to.
- 18 BOARD MEMBER JONES: And then you'll be comparing
- 19 the results of both to see if, in fact, they are
- 20 transferable?
- 21 MS. TABER: Exactly. And then we'll be comparing
- 22 that flux chamber data, we can compare it to the other
- 23 information we have on bio-solids.
- 24 BOARD MEMBER JONES: Thank you.
- I think, Mr. Paparian, just to answer your

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1 question, that this testing, as you know, we allocated

- 2 dollars at this Board meeting to help in testing, that
- 3 we've offered. I know that industry sources, local
- 4 governments, as well as whoever else, would help in that
- 5 testing.
- 6 I think the test data both for bio-solid
- 7 co-composting facilities and for green waste is probably
- 8 at the heart of this whole issue as to how recent it is
- 9 and how accurate it is. And I think that one of the
- 10 things we've got to offer the Board Members of the South
- 11 Coast Air District is to work in unison with them to get
- 12 consistent new test data and then to offer -- I know what
- 13 you're saying about the small amounts, and I, in no way,
- 14 want to dismiss what they can get.
- 15 What I'm very concerned about are the best
- 16 management practices that could be put in development with
- 17 the air district and our regulations as performance
- 18 criteria that can be done to get the same reductions or,
- 19 hopefully, I mean, that's what we'd have to work on,
- 20 without building buildings.
- 21 And that's, I think, the heart of the issue. And
- 22 if we can offer those kinds of alternatives to the South
- 23 Coast members, then they get what they need, the staff
- 24 gets what it needs. We've got to figure out how they're
- 25 going to be able to test the results of those emissions

- 1 using best management practices, but it keeps an entire
- 2 industry in business and that material out of landfills.
- 3 And I think that's the key to the issue, personally.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 5 Senator Roberti and then Mr. Medina.
- 6 BOARD MEMBER ROBERTI: Yeah, just briefly. I
- 7 think one of the witnesses testified that the South Coast
- 8 Air Quality District has not done a study yet on landfill
- 9 emission problems into the air, did I hear that correctly?
- 10 Or maybe it would be interesting to know what the extent
- 11 of their studies on landfill emissions, as far as air
- 12 quality is concerned. Has that progressed as far as
- 13 composting facilities emissions?
- 14 SOUTH COAST AQMD ASSISTANT DEPUTY EXECUTIVE
- 15 OFFICER TISOPULOUS: I can briefly respond to this. We
- 16 studied the emissions from the landfill operations, and,
- 17 in fact, those emissions are being governed by a totally
- 18 different regulation, 1150.1. It's a totally separate
- 19 issue than what we are talking about.
- 20 If I understood the comments that we received
- 21 today correctly, they were referring to the test that we
- 22 have regarding the bio-solids and which other operations?
- Is it mainly bio-solids?
- Yeah, on bio-solids.
- 25 And they feel that these are older data as

- 1 opposed to recent.
- 2 BOARD MEMBER ROBERTI: Well, here's my
- 3 observation and I hope you take it to heart at some point,
- 4 that is that if the argument is correct and it seems
- 5 plausible to me, that if composting facilities begin to
- 6 close down, and I know that's not your purpose, that there
- 7 will be deposited more bio-solid, green waste whatever
- 8 into landfills. Then we should have some sort of
- 9 comparative test as to what the possible eventual problem
- 10 is as far as air quality is concerned, because we may not
- 11 gain too much as far as air quality is concerned and lose
- 12 an awful lot as far as composting and reduction of waste,
- 13 another environmental question, if land fills, in effect,
- 14 become the repositories of composting facilities that are
- 15 no more.
- I mean the two issues in my mind have to be
- 17 studied concurrently so that we achieve our environmental
- 18 goals and serve an integrated fashion.
- 19 SOUTH COAST AQMD ASSISTANT DEPUTY EXECUTIVE
- 20 OFFICER TISOPULOUS: I wholeheartedly agree with you.
- 21 Your point is well taken. I want to make sure that one
- 22 thing is crystal clear over here, we all want to succeed
- 23 with AB 939. It's our goal as well as your goal. We are
- 24 all living here in southern California. We want to make
- 25 sure that your constituents are successful with 939 and

- 1 you've heard from most of the commenters today, who live
- 2 also in southern California they also want to breathe
- 3 clean air and we don't see those two to be in conflict.
- 4 And so long as we keep our eye on the ball, we can craft a
- 5 regulation that does achieve both goals.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 7 Mr. Medina.
- 8 BOARD MEMBER MEDINA: Yes, Madam Chair. One of
- 9 the speakers touched on it very directly where he said
- 10 that, you know, we have two competing State goals clean
- 11 air and diversion. And they certainly should not be
- 12 competing goals.
- 13 And I heard also in regard to data, you know, one
- 14 party said there was no data. Another party said the data
- 15 was not reliable, so I do think that we do need accurate
- 16 data. And one of the suggestions about joint meetings on
- 17 this subject between the Air Board and the Waste Board, I
- 18 think, is a good one. We know that we've done one with
- 19 the Water Board. I thought that was a success.
- 20 And also joint research efforts. And, again, I'm
- 21 glad that I had the opportunity to express the concerns
- 22 that were heard today. And I look forward to addressing
- 23 this issue in the near future.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr.
- 25 Medina. And, in conclusion, I would just like to say I

- 1 certainly know what Mr. Paparian is talking about. I was
- 2 born in Los Angeles and I've lived here all my life, so I
- 3 certainly understand the air quality problems.
- 4 I am perplexed that this rule is proposed to be
- 5 adopted in January. I've written to Dr. Burke on August
- 6 28th, again, on October 10th. I've received no
- 7 correspondence from Dr. Burke. We would certainly like to
- 8 have a joint board meeting, but this is a critical issue,
- 9 and we really need to start talking. And so I'd really,
- 10 really appreciate it if you could pass that long that
- 11 we're making every attempt to sit down and talk and really
- 12 get to the bottom of this.
- 13 SOUTH COAST AOMD ASSISTANT DEPUTY EXECUTIVE
- 14 OFFICER TISOPULOUS: If I may respond for a few seconds,
- 15 Ms. Taber was telling me that -- my tenure with this
- 16 particular program is only one week old, so I'm relying on
- 17 Ms. Taber.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: I'm sorry.
- 19 SOUTH COAST AQMD ASSISTANT DEPUTY EXECUTIVE
- 20 OFFICER TISOPULOUS: That's all right. She was telling me
- 21 that we have actually responded to your letter to your
- 22 staff, and we are looking forward to working with all of
- 23 you as well as your staff, as well as the impacted
- 24 industry of course.
- 25 Regarding the January deadline that we are

1	talking about, yes, this is what was indicated in our rule
2	forecast report. But I want to make sure that you all
3	understand, that unless we complete our assessment and we
4	are 100 percent certain that we have a proposal that is
5	both technically as well as an economically feasible
6	proposal that we can all live with, we are not going to
7	bring it before our board. And if that deadline has to be
8	postponed well, so be it, we are going to postpone it. So
9	we are going to make sure that we are going to complete
10	the job.
11	CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: I really
12	appreciate that, and I really appreciate you all being
13	here. And this is a great first step. And thank you and
14	thank you to the audience and the people that spoke.
15	This meeting is adjourned.
16	(Thereupon the California Integrated
17	Waste Management Board meeting was
18	adjourned at 3:35 p.m.)
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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	I, JAMES F. PETERS, a Certified Shorthand
3	Reporter of the State of California, and Registered
4	Professional Reporter, do hereby certify:
5	That I am a disinterested person herein; that the
6	foregoing California Integrated Waste Management Board
7	meeting was reported in shorthand by me, James F. Peters,
8	a Certified Shorthand Reporter of the State of California,
9	and thereafter transcribed into typewriting.
10	I further certify that I am not of counsel or
11	attorney for any of the parties to said meeting nor in any
12	way interested in the outcome of said meeting.
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
14	this 29th day of October, 2001.
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